

Bienville Parish



"Over the years, it has become clear that individual health is closely linked to community health—the health of the community and environment in which individuals live, work, and play. Likewise, community health is profoundly affected by the collective beliefs, attitudes, and behaviors of everyone who lives in the community"

Healthy People 2010

Parish Health Profiles 2005 — Your Parish at a Glance

	Bienville	Louisiana	U.S.	HP 2010
ECONOMICS, 2000				
% All persons in poverty	26.1%	19.6%	12.4%	--
% Children under 18 in poverty	34.5%	26.6%	16.6%	--
% Unemployed 16 and over	10.0%	7.3%	5.8%	--
EDUCATION 2002-2003				
School Expenditure per Student	\$8,258	\$6,906	--	--
Student Attendance (average daily attendance as a % of the average number of students enrolled)	95.1%	93.5%	--	--
% High School Drop Outs (as a % of incoming 9th grade)	5.0%	7.0%	--	--
MOTHERS AND CHILDREN, 2002				
Infant mortality rate (per 1,000 births)	5.0	10.2	7.0	4.5
% Receiving prenatal care within first 3 months	85.4%	83.8%	83.7%	90.0%
% Receiving adequate prenatal care (modified Kessner)	80.0%	78.9%	76.2%	--
% Low birth weight	12.1%	10.5%	7.7%	5.0%
% Births to teens ages 15 - 19	20.1%	15.5%	10.6%	--
% Children fully immunized by 2 years old	--	69.8%	78.5%	90.0%
INFECTIOUS DISEASES, 2003 (new cases - rate per 100,000 population)				
Syphilis (primary and secondary)	--	4.1	2.5	0.2
Early Syphilis (primary, secondary and early latent)	0.0	8.6	5.4	--
Chlamydia	488.8	469.8	304.3	3.0
Gonorrhea	241.2	265.6	116.2	19.0
Tuberculosis	0.0	5.8	5.1	1.0
STATEWIDE LEADING CAUSES OF DEATH, 2002 (death rate per 100,000 population)				
Heart	352.8	248.4	241.7	166.0
Cancer	314.3	209.7	193.2	159.9
Cerebrovascular Disease	**	57.4	56.4	48.0
Accidents	**	46.7	37.0	17.5
Diabetes	**	39.5	25.4	45.0
Chronic Lower Respiratory	**	37.8	43.3	--
COMMUNITY SAFETY, 2003				
Validated cases of child abuse/neglect (rate per 1,000 population)	12.5	10.9	12.4	10.3
Deaths caused by motor vehicle crashes (rate per 100 Million Vehicle Miles Traveled)	1.6	2.1	1.5	0.8
HEALTH BEHAVIORS, 2004				
	Region 7	Louisiana	U.S.	HP 2010
% Current cigarette smokers (adults 18+)	22.0%	23.5%	21.0%	12.0%
% Obese - BMI >30 (adults 20+)	27.7%	27.0%	31.1%	15.0%
% Having a mammogram within 2 years (women 40+)	70.8%	74.3%	74.6%	70.0%
% Having a pap smear within 3 years (women 18+)	82.7%	85.2%	85.9%	90.0%
% Having a flu shot in past year (adults 65+)	68.3%	68.6%	67.9%	90.0%

Data Sources:

Economics: U.S. Census 2000 Summary File 3 (SF 3) - Sample Data, 2000

Education: Louisiana Department of Education District-reported data submitted to the Student Information System (SIS) end-of-year (EOY) report and Profile of Educational Personnel (PEP) System. Office of Management and Finance, Division of Planning, Analysis and Information Resources. District Composite Report 2003-2004.

Mothers and Children: DHH/OPH, Louisiana State Center for Health Statistics, 2004 Louisiana Health Report Card and National Vital Statistics Reports, Vol. 53, No. 15, February 2005

Infectious Diseases: DHH/OPH, Sexually Transmitted Disease Program. 2004 and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, "Trends in Reportable Sexually Transmitted Disease in the United State, 2003". NA= Rate not available, # of cases is less than 5

Leading Causes of Death: DHH/OPH, Louisiana State Center for Health Statistics, 2004 Louisiana Health Report Card and National Vital Statistics Reports, Vol. 53, No. 15, February 2005 (**Rates for counts less than 20 are unreliable and are not reported)

Community Safety: Child Abuse--Louisiana Department of Social Services, Office of Community Services, prepared by Prevent Child Abuse Louisiana and Motor Vehicle Deaths--EM S/Injury Research & Prevention Program

Healthy Behaviors: DHH/OPH, Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS), 2004

History^{1, 2}

Originally part of Natchitoches Parish, Bienville was established on March 14, 1848. It was named in honor of Jean Baptiste Sieur de Bienville, colonizer of Louisiana and founder of New Orleans. The village of Mount Lebanon was settled in 1847 by immigrants from South Carolina. It was the site of the first Baptist church in North Louisiana. The Baptist Convention organized and founded Mount Lebanon University in 1855. During the Civil War, the school was closed and the building used as a hospital. In later years, the college was moved to Pineville and reopened as Louisiana College.



Bienville Parish is host to a bounty of lakes and reservoirs offering pleasure to all fishing and water sports enthusiasts. Kepler Creek Lake offers fishing and boating opportunities, and features the “Blue Hole,” a scenic fishing spot. The Mill Creek Reservoir offers fishing and outdoor recreation, as does ‘Saline Lake,’ Ringgold’s southwestern swatch of Lake Bistineau State Game and Fish Preserve. There are also festivals held each year in Bienville Parish: the Slabtown Festival in April; the Authentic Bonnie & Clyde Festival; Possums Unlimited Festival; and the Saline Watermelon Festival. Bienville Parish also boasts several museums showcasing the rich cultural history of the parish. The State Coach Train Museum houses antiques, turn-of-the-century clothing, and a blacksmith shop to mention a few of the attractions. The Bienville Historic Depot Museum is housed in the oldest depot between Shreveport and Vicksburg, circa 1884.

Parish Seat³ Arcadia

Major Cities (population over 5,000)

N/A

Parish Population⁴

2000..... 15,752

2003 (estimate)15,320

2000 Population by Race

White..... 54.9%

African-American 43.8%

Some other race..... 1.3%

Hispanic of Latino (of any race) 0.9%

2000 Population by Age

Under 5 years 6.5%

5-14 15.3%

15-17 5.5%

18-19 2.7%

20-24 5.3%

25-64 47.1%

65 & over 17.6%

Geography and Statistics⁵

Average elevation	360ft.
Land area in square miles	811
Water area in square miles	11.1

Climate

Average temperatures	
Annual	64°
January	54°
July	92°
Annual average rainfall	50.7 inches

Labor Force (2001)⁶

Bienville Parish	
Civilian.....	5,407
Employed	4,847
Unemployed.....	560
Unemployment.....	10.4%
Louisiana	
Civilian.....	2,055,000
Employed	1,956,500
Unemployed.....	98,500
Unemployment Rate	4.8%

Colleges/Universities (within one hour commute)

- Centenary College
- Louisiana State University and A&M College, Shreveport
- Southern University and A&M College, Shreveport
- Bossier Parish Community College
- Grambling State University
- Louisiana College
- Louisiana Tech University
- University of Louisiana at Monroe

1. [Louisiana Almanac](#), 2002-2003 edition, Pelican Publishing Company, Gretna, LA. 2002.
2. Louisiana Office of Tourism. 1998. keywords: regional information
<<http://www.crt.state.la.us/crt/tourism/>>.
3. [Louisiana Almanac](#), 2002-2003 edition, Pelican Publishing Company, Gretna, LA. 2002.
4. U.S. Census Bureau, Summary File 1 (SF 1) and Summary File 3 (SF 3) <<http://www.census.gov>>.
5. U.S. Census Bureau: State and County QuickFacts <<http://www.census.gov>>.
6. Louisiana Department of Labor, Civilian Labor Force Summary
<http://www.l dol.state.la.us/forms/lmi/CLF_Parishes_2000-Present.xls>.